

Appointment for the White House Conference on Small Business Commission *September 12, 1993*

The President today appointed 11 members to the White House Conference on Small Business Commission and designated New York businessman Alan Patricof to be the Commission's Chair. The Commission is responsible for developing recommendations for Executive and legislative action to encourage the economic viability of small business and for convening the 1994 White House Conference on Small Business.

"I am very proud to have put together this outstanding group of people to serve on this Commission," said the President. "I am com-

mitted to expanding opportunities for small business and look forward to receiving this Commission's advice."

In addition to the Chairman, the members of the Commission are: Merle Catherine Chambers; Rudolph I. Estrada; Clark Jones; Mary Francis Kelly; Peggy Zone Fisher; Larry Shaw; C. Hough Friedman; Brian Lee Greenspun; Josie Natori; and Gary M. Woodbury.

NOTE: Biographies of the appointees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Remarks at the Signing Ceremony for the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles *September 13, 1993*

The President. Prime Minister Rabin, Chairman Arafat, Foreign Minister Peres, Mr. Abbas, President Carter, President Bush, distinguished guests.

On behalf of the United States and Russia, cosponsors of the Middle East peace process, welcome to this great occasion of history and hope.

Today we bear witness to an extraordinary act in one of history's defining dramas, a drama that began in the time of our ancestors when the word went forth from a sliver of land between the river Jordan and the Mediterranean Sea. That hallowed piece of earth, that land of light and revelation is the home to the memories and dreams of Jews, Muslims, and Christians throughout the world.

As we all know, devotion to that land has also been the source of conflict and bloodshed for too long. Throughout this century, bitterness between the Palestinian and Jewish people has robbed the entire region of its resources, its potential, and too many of its sons and daughters. The land has been so drenched in warfare and hatred, the conflicting claims of history etched so deeply in the souls of the combatants there, that many believed the past would always have the upper hand.

Then, 14 years ago, the past began to give way when, at this place and upon this desk, three men of great vision signed their names to the Camp David accords. Today we honor the memories of Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat, and we salute the wise leadership of President Jimmy Carter. Then, as now, we heard from those who said that conflict would come again soon. But the peace between Egypt and Israel has endured. Just so, this bold new venture today, this brave gamble that the future can be better than the past, must endure.

Two years ago in Madrid, another President took a major step on the road to peace by bringing Israel and all her neighbors together to launch direct negotiations. And today we also express our deep thanks for the skillful leadership of President George Bush.

Ever since Harry Truman first recognized Israel, every American President, Democrat and Republican, has worked for peace between Israel and her neighbors. Now the efforts of all who have labored before us bring us to this moment, a moment when we dare to pledge what for so long seemed difficult even to imagine: that the security of the Israeli people will